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HARWICH
PORT HEALTH
AUTHORITY



Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR 1948

Harwich Port Health Authority

MEMBERS AND OFFICIALS OF THE JOINT BOARD AT 31st DECEMBER, 1948

Alderman R. A. WARD (Chairman)	}	<i>Borough of Harwich.</i>
Councillor E. GANT (The Mayor)		
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„ W. E. HASTE		
Councillor F. CLEMENT-SMITH		<i>Deben R.D.C.</i>

Clerk and Solicitor : H. H. V. CARTER, B.A.

Office : 42, Church Street, Harwich (Telephone : Harwich 666/7).

Medical Officer and Inspector of Aliens :

J. ROLAND HETHERINGTON, L.R.C.P. and S.E., L.R.F.P. and
S.G., D.P.H.

Office : Health Department, Main Road, Dovercourt.

(Telephone : Harwich 506. Telegrams : Portelth, Harwich).

Deputy Ditto : KIERAN PHELAN, M.B., Ch.B.

Chief Port Health and Food Inspector : E. K. LOMAS, R.S.I.

Port Health and Food Inspector : N. PEACOCK, R.S.I.

Office : Parkeston Quay, Harwich. (Telephone : 656).

Attendants : Mrs. M. A. LING and Mrs. E. V. CULLINGFORD

Harwich Port Health Authority

Harwich, February, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the Port Health Authority.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1948. Ministry of Health Circular 164/48, dated 15th October, 1948, directs that the Authority will instruct their Medical Officer of Health to prepare his Annual Report for 1948 on the lines indicated in Memorandum 302/S.A.

The Memorandum referred to states:

PORT HEALTH AND RIPARIAN AUTHORITIES

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

1.—Article 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London), Regulations, 1935, provides that a Medical Officer of Health shall, as soon as practicable after the 31st day of December in each year make an Annual Report to the Authority up to the end of December, on the sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration and the vital statistics of the District, containing, in addition to any other matters upon which he may consider it desirable to report, such information as may from time to time be required by the Minister.

2.—Article 27 (18) of the Regulations provides that the Sanitary Inspector shall, as soon as practicable after the 31st day of December in each year, furnish the Medical Officer of Health with a tabular statement containing the following particulars:

- (a) The number and nature of inspections made by him during the year;
- (b) The number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from informal notices;
- (c) The result of the service of such notices.

3.—The records of the Authority should accordingly be kept in such form as to enable their Medical Officer of Health to prepare his Report without delay at the close of each year. **The Report should be in the form and sequence indicated herein; the lettering of the tables being adhered to.**

4.—The Medical Officer of Health should include in his Report any comments which he may think desirable (1) under the several heads indicated herein, and (2) in regard to the need for any developments or extensions which, in his opinion, are necessary to render the work of the Authority fully efficient.

5.—In case of those ports which are approved under the Aliens Order, 1920, for the landing of aliens, the Medical Officer of Health should report generally upon the work of medical inspection of aliens.

The above mentioned directives, in so far as they apply have been followed.

There has been a satisfactory increase in the trade of the port during the year, accompanied by a correspondingly large increase in the amount of passenger traffic.

It will also be noted that the number of aliens entering the port is easily the largest for any one year since the operation of the Aliens Order, 1920. The number of detailed examinations was also the highest recorded with the exception of 1939. These inspections and examinations made greater calls on the time of the staff. Currency restrictions involve a marked increase in the length of time taken by the Immigration Authorities to deal with passengers ; this also adds to the number of hours of duty which the medical staff are called upon to perform.

The cordial relations between the Customs Department, the Immigration Department, the British Railways, the United Shipping Co., and the Zealand Shipping Co., have been maintained. A satisfactory liaison has also been established with the Ministry of War Transport Officials controlling the B.A.O.R. Troopship Service. Without such relationship it would be impossible for the work of the Port to be carried out in an efficient manner.

In presenting this report, it gives me much pleasure to express my appreciation of the work carried out by various members of the staff.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ROLAND HETHERINGTON,

Port Medical Officer.

JURISDICTION, POWERS, ETC.

The work of the Harwich Port Health Authority is carried out under the following Acts of Parliament and Statutory Rules and Orders.

1. Constitution and jurisdiction of the Authority

A provisional order of the 7th May, 1881, was followed by a permanent order on the 30th June, 1889. These were "orders for permanently constituting a Sanitary Authority," in the area now covered by the Harwich Port Health Authority the boundaries of which have been stated in previous reports. These orders were made under Section 287 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as amended by Section 3 of the Public Health (Ships, etc.) Act, 1885; these provisions are now incorporated in Section 2 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

2. Powers

These are defined in the Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 2 to 10. Provisions as to Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspectors are set out in the first Schedule of this Act.

3. Duties

These include :

- (a) The Prevention of the Importation of Infectious Disease.
- (b) The Prevention of Importation of Rat Plague.
- (c) The carrying out of the Provisions of the Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945.

These regulations embody the provisions of the International Sanitary Convention, 1926.

- (d) The supervision of the hygiene of crew and passenger accommodation in ships.
- (e) The inspection of imported food.

The principal regulations under which these duties are carried out are the Public Health Imported Milk Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health Imported Food Regulations, 1937.

- (f) The Prevention of the Importation of Parrots (Parrots (Prohibition of Imports) Regulations, 1930).

4. Aliens (Aliens Order, 1920).

The Home Office is responsible for the exclusion of any Alien from this Country ; The Ministry of Health is responsible for the appointment of Medical Inspectors of Aliens at each approved Port. The entire cost of such is borne by the Ministry.

ACCOMMODATION FOR VESSELS

PARKESTON QUAY

The chief accommodation for vessels is at Parkeston Quay.

This is situated a little over a mile from the mouth of the River.

It is 4,400 feet in length, and can receive eleven boats of an average length of 400 feet. At High Tide it can berth ships drawing a draught of 26 feet of water.

H.M. Navy occupy a small portion of the Quay and the remainder is used by the Railway Executive, who offer facilities for berthing of vessels belonging to the Ministry of Transport used in connection with B.A.O.R. traffic.

British Railways and the United Shipping Company disembark their passengers and discharge their cargo at this Quay.

MISTLEY QUAY

This is a small Quay about 10 miles up the River Stour from Harwich. It can give berth to vessels up to 150 feet in length and 12 feet draught. The Quay is used mainly by sprit barges carrying cargo for the use of Brooks (Mistley) Ltd., and Free Rodwell's Malting works situated near the Quay.

FELIXSTOWE DOCK

This is a small tidal Dock situate on the East side to the entrance to the harbour. This is at present used only by small coasters and barges carrying wheat to Messrs. Marriage's Flour Mills.

CONTINENTAL PIER, HARWICH

This is a small Quay, situate at the entrance to the River Stour, which gives accommodation to vessels of 18 feet draught of water.

TRAIN FERRY

The Train Ferry boats have their own specially constructed pier, which lies to the West of the Harwich Pier.

HARWICH STEAM-BOAT PIER

This is a small Pier—the property of the British Railways, used by small steam and motor-boats engaged in passenger service between Harwich, Felixstowe, and Shotley. The local shrimping and fishing boats are also based at Harwich, and a small Quay at the Gas Works is used by small vessels carrying coal.

TRADE OF THE PORT

The total tonnage, including Ministry of Transport traffic entering the Port during 1948, was 2,929,853; the total number of vessels entering the port was 2,144, an increase of 420 over the previous year.

The trade of the Port consists of general cargo of all kinds, and includes a large quantity of foodstuffs. A summary of the main imports and exports is given in the following list :

IMPORTS IN TRANSIT

Artificial Silk Goods	Game
Animals (live)	Haberdashery
Apparel	Hams
Bacon	Horses
Basketware	Ivory Teeth (elephants)
Biscuits and cakes	Manufactures of skins and furs
Books printed	Machinery
Butter	Motors
Barley	Offal (salted)
Bulbs	Poultry
Condensed Milk	Painters' Colour
Cheese	Paper
China	Plants
Carpets	Prints
Clocks	Preserved Meats
Cocoa and Chocolate	Preserved Fruit
Cotton Manufactures	Preserved Vegetables
Cooked Meat	Pate de Foie Gras
Embroidery and Needlework	Preserved Fish
Eggs	Silk
Electrical Goods and Apparatus	Spirits
Films, photo and cinema raw stock	Sausages (tinned)
Fish (all kinds)	Sausages (smoked)
Flowers (artificial)	Vegetables (raw)
Flowers (fresh)	Wines
Fruit (raw all kinds)	Wood Manufactures
Furniture	Woollen Yarn
Glass Manufactures	Worsted Manufactures
Glue, Size, and Gelatine	Yeast

NOTE : All imports are governed by Import Licences, and there are restrictions by Government Policy.

EXPORTS IN TRANSIT

Animals (living)	Haberdashery
Apparel	Implements, Tools
Automobiles	Leather (raw and Manu- factured)
Biscuit and cakes	Machinery
Books	Malt
Boots and shoes	Millinery
Brass	Musical Instruments
Carriages (Motors)	Paper
Chemical Preparations	Painters' Colours
Carpets and Rugs	Silk
Cotton and Yarn	Skins
Cotton Manufactures	Seeds
Fish	Silk Yarn
Furs	Silk Manufactures
Furniture	Stationery
Herrings	Toys and Games
Hardware	Tractors
Hats	

TRAFFIC OF THE PORT (Passenger)

The year also brought a definite increase in the amount of passenger traffic as indicated below :

<i>Number of Passengers</i>		<i>Inward</i>	<i>Outward</i>	<i>Total</i>
1946		98,288	105,092	203,380
1947		214,269	192,184	406,453
1948		264,783	216,961	481,744

It is of interest to note that the corresponding figures for 1936, 1937, and 1938, were :

1936	193,102	173,834	366,936
1937	209,222	211,056	420,278
1938	197,387	190,208	387,595

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

The Aliens Order of 1920 requires that all Alien passengers arriving at the Port be subjected to a medical inspection. As far as is possible this is carried out before the Aliens are interviewed by the Immigration Officers. In addition, those Aliens who intend to take up employment in this country, or who propose to reside here are required to undergo a more detailed medical examination, as also are those who appear to the Immigration Officer not to be in robust health. Such detailed medical examination is carried out in a room set apart for the medical inspector's use, but the general layout is most unsatisfactory and the attention of the appropriate authorities has been repeatedly drawn to this fact.

During the year the number of ships carrying Aliens arriving at the Port of Harwich was 1,210, compared with 996 during the previous year.

The total number of Aliens arriving at the Port was 132,291, this being the largest number to arrive in any one year since the introduction of medical inspection of aliens. Of this number 152 were refused leave to land by the Immigration Officer.

The number of Aliens who were given a detailed examination was 6,963, in the following classes :

1. Ministry of Labour permits	2956
2. Intending to take up employment and remain in the country over 3 months	35
3. Intending to make their home in this country	3811
4. Students coming for educational purposes ..	84
5. In regard to whom there is any mention of health as a reason for their visit	5
6. Who appear to the I.O. :	
(a) Not to be in robust health	2
(b) to be mentally or physically abnormal or subnormal	—
(c) to be dirty in their person	—
(d) are selected for special reasons.. ..	67
7. Seamen travelling as passengers	3
Total ..	<u>6963</u>

It was found necessary on medical grounds to refuse one alien permission to land and in one other case a certificate was issued. Corresponding figures for previous years are :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Aliens landed</i>	<i>Examined</i>
1933	72,467	3,991
1934	78,628	2,395
1935	80,639	2,031
1936	91,406	2,790
1937	97,990	2,952
1938	103,631	6,099
1939	87,030 (9 months)	24,221
1945	3,880 (2 months)	2,185
1946	51,203	5,503
1947	94,577	6,047
1948	132,139	6,963

In part, this increase was associated with the holding of the Olympic Games in London.

In carrying out the detailed examinations, the medical inspectors were ably assisted by the two Female Attendants.

Parties of European Voluntary Workers have arrived regularly throughout the year, the numbers being :

Men	31,250
Women	8,650
Total ..	<u>39,900</u>

In addition there were 2,750 dependants including 1,350 children.

Although these were all medically examined before embarkation it was frequently found necessary to be present at disembarkation.

PILOTAGE

All ships entering the Port are required to do so in charge of a British Pilot, unless exempt under the Pilotage By-laws. Ships arriving from any foreign Port situated between the River Elbe and the Port of Brest may enter the Port of Harwich without producing a declaration of health, but all other ships from foreign ports are required to furnish this declaration.

The local Pilots have full instructions as to the procedure to be adopted when a case of doubtful infectious disease is reported to them, and the situation of the Quarantine Station in the Harbour is known to them all.

DECLARATION OF HEALTH

The Port Health Regulations 1933 and 1945 (Article 13) require that "The master of a foreign-going ship arriving in a district from a foreign port shall complete and sign a declaration of health."

The declaration forms are supplied to the masters of ships regularly running into Harwich by the Port Health Inspector. In the case of other vessels the forms are supplied to the master through the kindly co-operation of the Elder Brethren of Trinity House and of the Customs Officers.

The signed declaration of health is handed to either the Customs Officer or the Officer of the Port Health Authority, whichever first boards the ship. If the declaration is satisfactory it is retained by the Port Health Inspector. If, however, the answer to any of the questions in the declaration is "yes," free pratique is not granted by H.M. Customs until the vessel has been visited by the Port Medical Officer.

Article 14(2) of the above regulation states that "a ship arriving from a foreign port may be detained for medical examination."

The Port Medical Officer is thus enabled to follow up information regarding the incidence of Infectious Disease in foreign ports (as issued in the Weekly Record of Convention Diseases at Ports and other Localities at Home and Abroad).

QUARANTINE STATION

The Quarantine Station is bounded on the north by a line drawn from Fagborough Cliff to the River Steamer's Pier, Harwich, and on the south by a line drawn from Martello Tower to the Coastguard Station, Harwich.

IMPORTATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The majority of the ships which enter the Port convey passengers from Belgium, Germany, Holland, and Scandinavia, and consideration has, therefore, to be given the risk of the importation of infectious disease from these countries. During 1948, two cases of measles were notified. In addition there was one case of mumps.

HOSPITAL FACILITIES

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, patients suffering from infectious Disease are admitted to the Isolation Hospital, at either Colchester or Ipswich.

Persons suffering from non-infectious diseases may be accommodated at the Harwich and District Cottage Hospital or at Colchester.

WIRELESS MESSAGES

During the year, arrangements were made for the reception of wireless messages from ships at sea. This ensures that when a message is despatched from a ship in the vicinity of Harwich, medical aid and ambulance facilities are readily available.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF VESSELS

Regular inspections have been carried out on all vessels entering the Port. Details are given on a later page.

CLEANSING STATION

The Port Health Authority have an agreement with the Council of the Borough of Harwich, whereby they may have the use of their Cleansing Station for dealing with verminous persons and their belongings. This Cleansing Station has two rooms and a bathroom, and there is a Thresh Disinfector in good working order.

Accommodation for sleeping at the Cleansing Station can be provided if required. It is within easy distance of the Quay. During the year it has not been necessary to cleanse or disinfect any person.

PSITTACOSIS

The Parrots (Prohibition of Imports) Regulations, 1930, are still in force.

During the year two budgerigars and one parrot were landed at the Port in contravention of the regulations. The former were destroyed and the parrot re-exported to Holland.

VENEREAL DISEASES

There is a V.D. Clinic at the Harwich Borough's Health Department, which is under the care of the Port Medical Officer. A satisfactory contact is maintained with the members of the crews using the Port and arrangements are made whereby members of the Mercantile Marine are dealt with at any convenient times at the Clinic (apart from the regular sessions thereof). Over 100 patients made nearly 400 attendances; of this number a proportion were seamen.

TABLE A AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1948

	Number.	Tonnage.	Number Inspected.		Number reported to be defective.	Number of vessels on which defects were reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyor.	Number of vessels reported as having or having had defects during the voyage infectious Disease on Board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Sanitary Inspector.			
Foreign :							
Steamers ..	848	871046	76	118	36	36	—
Motors.. ..	442	832714	59	55	2	2	—
Sailing.. ..	2	36	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign..	1292	1703796	126	173	38	38	—
Coastwise :							
Steamers ..	33	20482	2	21	4	4	—
Motors.. ..	146	13937	—	35	3	2	—
Sailing.. ..	118	7829	—	25	1	1	—
Fishing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise	297	42248	2	81	8	7	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise	1589	1746044	128	254	46	45	—

The above figures do not include Ministry of Transport Traffic (for B.A.O.R., P.O.W., and E.V.W. Services).
The total number of vessels entering the Port was 2,144.

TABLE B PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR 1948

Number of Passengers :	Inwards	..	..	..	..	..	264,783
	Outwards	..	..	..	..	..	216,961

TABLE B. 1

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Annual return by the Medical Inspector of Aliens for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

	Total.	Number Inspected by the Medical Inspector.	Number subjected to detailed examination by the Medical Inspector.	Certified Issued.			Landing necessary for ade- quate examin- ation.	Transmi- grants.
				Lunatic, idiot, or M.D.	Undesir- able for medical reasons.	Physi- cally incapaci- tated.	Suffering from acute infectious disease.	
(a) Total number of Aliens landing at the Port	132039	103974	6963	—	—	1	—	—
(b) Aliens refused per- mission to land by Immigration Officer	152	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
(c) Transmigrants ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Aliens arriving at the Port	132291							

Total number of vessels carrying Alien passengers 1210 (including B.A.O.R. etc.).

TABLE C**CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS**

Disease.	Number of Cases during the year.		Number of vessels concerned.	Average number of cases for previous five years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Measles.	—	2	1	—

TABLE D**CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS
DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL**

Disease.	Number of Cases during the year.		Number of vessels concerned.	Average number of cases for previous five years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
—	—	—	—	—

Report of the Chief Sanitary and Food Inspector

To the Chairman and Members of the Harwich Port Health Authority.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the work of the Department during the year 1948.

The following Services were in operation during the year :

Hook of Holland (Passenger and Cargo)

Daily and nightly services. Vessels arriving at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Esbjerg (Passenger and Cargo)

Thrice weekly service, vessels arriving between 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. From June to October the service was increased to five sailings and five arrivals per week.

Antwerp (Passenger and Cargo)

Thrice weekly service. Vessels arriving at 6 a.m.

Rotterdam (Cargo only)

Twice weekly service. Vessels arriving at 6 a.m.

Zeebrugge (Cargo and Passenger Train Ferry)

Daily service. Vessels arriving at 8 p.m.

B.A.O.R. Troopships

The Ministry of Transport has three vessels at the Port for troop carrying on a nightly service to Hook of Holland. Vessels arrive at 6 a.m. Two vessels are also maintained for carrying returned P's.O.W. and E.V.W's.

PORT SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Regular inspections have been carried out on all vessels entering the Port. Foreign arrivals consisting mainly of vessels on the Continental and Danish services. A good proportion of these vessels are of post-war construction, or have been reconstructed since the war. The crews' accommodation in these vessels is very good and shows many improvements to that on the older vessels. It was generally found that crews appreciated these improved conditions and endeavoured to keep their quarters clean and satisfactory.

254 vessels have been inspected during the year. Defects were found on 46 vessels and 45 were rectified. The defects were mainly of a minor character and were generally quickly rectified on being brought to the attention of the proper authority. No Notices were issued during the year. A summary of the defects found in vessels is shown in appendix 1.

In addition to the above, frequent inspections have been carried out on Ministry of Transport Troopships, and defects notified.

The Coastal Vessels using the Port are mainly motor and sailing barges carrying grain to Felixstowe Dock and Mistley from London. These vessels are generally found to be maintained in a very clean and satisfactory condition.

Regular inspections have also been carried out on River Craft, Tugs, Supply Ships, etc.

Liaison is maintained with the Disinfestation Department of British Railways, and their services have been called in when required on any of their vessels.

Table A shows amount and details of shipping entering Port during the year. Table J shows classification of Nuisances found on vessels during the year.

Under the agreement which the Port Health Authority has with the Borough of Harwich, their steam disinfecter was used on four occasions for the disinfection of bedding and clothing.

WATER SUPPLY

The water for shipping and the Port is supplied by the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Co.

One sample was taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis from the tanks of a vessel at the request of the Master. This water was obtained at Parkeston Quay. The Analyst's report showed the water, although very hard, to be of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

Request was made to the department concerned for overhaul of all defective fresh water hydrants on Parkeston Quay and provision of new covers where required. This was carried out. Supervision was exercised over the condition and storage of supply hoses.

The only water boats in use at the Port are those used by the Admiralty for supplying vessels of the Reserve Fleet. These do not come under our control.

RODENT CONTROL AND MEASURES

Harwich is not at present an Approved Port for the issue of De-ratisation Certificates under the International Sanitary Convention. All the regular foreign-going vessels carry valid certificates, the British vessels getting theirs at a Foreign Approved Port, or at a British Approved Port when they go for dry-docking. As reported at the September meeting of the Joint Board, it was felt that this was not entirely a satisfactory arrangement. Your inspectors make regular inspections of these vessels, and see that measures are taken to ensure that the vessels are free from rats, and so the Medical Officer should have the authority to issue De-ratisation Exemption Certificates, if warranted. It is understood, that after your Inspectors have visited London Docks to see ship fumigation carried out, the Ministry of Health will consent to Harwich being an Approved Port.

All vessels were regularly inspected for rat infestation, but only a few minor infestations were found. These were successfully dealt with by trapping or poisoning. All the regular vessels which applied at other Ports for renewal of De-ratisation Certificates were granted Exemption Certificates. In no cases were vessels ordered to be fumigated at these Ports.

Regular visits were made to Parkeston Quay by the Rodent Operators of British Railways. Pre-baiting and poisoning were used for the few small infestations found. These Operators were also called on Railway-owned vessels when necessary.

The various warehouses and stores were kept under careful observation, and immediate steps taken to deal with any infestations. 52 rats and 25 mice were destroyed in these buildings during the year.

No rats were sent for examination for plague.

Rats destroyed during the year on vessels are shown in Table E. Those destroyed in Docks, Warehouses, etc., during the year are shown in Table F.

COLORADO BEETLE

Eighteen Colorado Beetles were found on vessels arriving from Belgium during the month of June. These were forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and thorough examinations made on vessels and cargoes.

FOOD INSPECTION

Foodstuffs imported during the year consisted of the following: All classes of fruit and vegetables, seafish, freshwater fish, shell-fish, butter, bacon, eggs, cheese, game, poultry, hares, offals, sausages, biscuits, condensed milk, milk powder, salad oil, custard powder, synthetic cream, edible oils, bakery fat, beaver meat, tinned meats, tinned fruits, and vegetables, etc.

A summary of foodstuffs imported during the year is shown as Appendix 2.

A new importation during the year was Synthetic Cream from Denmark. The constituents of this are vegetable fats and milk

TABLE E RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR ON VESSELS

Number of Rats.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total for Year.
Black	—	—	—	—	—	41	—	—	2	3	—	—	46
Brown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Species not recorded	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Examined	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE F RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WAREHOUSES, ETC.

Number of Rats.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total for Year.
Black	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	10	2	5	2	8	32
Brown	1	14	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	20
Mice	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
Species not recorded	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Examined	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE J HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES. *Classification of Nuisances.*

Nationality of Vessel.	Number Inspected during year.	Defects of original construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, Vermin, and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	195	8	18	21
Other Nations ..	59	—	2	2

powder. It is used for ice cream manufacture. Two samples of this cream were taken under the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations, and were found to be free from preservatives. About 60 to 80 churns are arriving weekly. Some of the churns used were not regarded as satisfactory for this purpose. They appeared to be discarded milk churns, several having patches of rust on the interior. The state of cleanliness of many returned empty churns was also very unsatisfactory. These matters were taken up with the Importing Agents, and the Food Hygiene Division of the Ministry of Food. A good number of the churns have now been re-tinned, and after returning several dirty churns to merchants for proper cleansing, the position has improved.

Several consignments of Danish tinned pork were found to be unsatisfactory, as many of the tins were springers. These tins, whilst not being definitely classed as unsound, must be regarded with suspicion, due to the absence of a vacuum in the tin. The importers refused to accept the defective tins, so the consignments were sorted and the defective tins returned to Denmark under a guarantee from the Danish Ministry of Agriculture against re-exportation to this Country.

Supervision was exercised over the state of cleanliness of railway trucks used for carrying foodstuffs, also holds of vessels, quay, sheds, etc.

Working hours on Parkeston Quay are from 5.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. During busy periods, foodstuffs of some description are generally being discharged during these hours, so it is necessary for an Inspector to be in attendance.

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937

Seizures under these Regulations during the year numbered 1,180, weighing 22,970 lbs. In addition, 419 lbs. of Ships Stores were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

A summary of seizures is shown in Appendix 3.

Condemned food of any salvage value was disposed of for that purpose.

Every effort was made to avoid unnecessary waste or loss of food, and advice and assistance given to Shipping Companies and Departments concerned to this effect.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925-1940

These Regulations, made by the Ministry of Health, prohibit the importation of articles of food containing preservatives, with the exception of certain articles of food which may contain preservatives of the nature and proportion specified.

Four samples were taken under these Regulations during the year, and forwarded for analysis.

The only sample found to contain preservative was Tomato Ketchup, which was reported as containing 160 parts per million of Benzoic Acid. This is within the limits allowed by the Regulations of 250 p.p.m. of Benzoic Acid.

The following is a summary of Samples taken and results obtained :

<i>Date</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Country of origin</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
17/5/48	Synthetic Cream	Denmark	Nil Preservative	
20/6/48	Synthetic Cream	Denmark	Nil Preservative	
31/7/48	Pork Brawn	Denmark	Nil Preservative	
31/12/48	Tomato Ketchup	Holland	160 p.p.m. Benzoic Acid	Within the amount allowed by the Regs.

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1926

No milk was imported during the year under these Regulations.
Shell-fish

There are no shell-fish layings within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1934, or the Public Health (Cleansing of Shell-Fish) Act, 1932.

STAFF

Mr. O. Griffiths, one of your Health and Food Inspectors, resigned in April, on taking up an appointment with Tredegar Urban District Council. The post was advertised, but no applications were received at the salary then proposed. The post was re-advertised at a higher salary, and one application was received, but owing to lack of housing accommodation in this area, the candidate reluctantly refused the appointment. Since then, Mr. Peacock and myself have carried out the duties between us, and owing to the decrease of food imports during the later part of the year, I feel justified in not pressing for another Inspector, until such time as the trade of the Port considerably increases.

I would like to express my appreciation of the work carried out by Mr. Peacock, your Health and Food Inspector, during the year.

Mr. Peacock attended the Conference of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association in June, as a delegate of the Port Health Authority. He found the Conference interesting and instructive. His report on the Conference was submitted at the September meeting of the Joint Board.

During the year, our relations with the officials of H.M. Customs, British Railways, United Shipping Company, and Zeeland Shipping Company, have been very satisfactory.

Dr. Hetherington, the Port Medical Officer, has been informed of anything of interest.

I, am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. K. LOMAS,

*Chief Port Health and Food Inspector,
Harwich Port Health Authority.*

APPENDIX 1
HYGIENE OF CREW SPACES
CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES, 1948

	<i>British Owned Vessels</i>	<i>Foreign Owned Vessels</i>
Defective Heating	3	—
Inadequate Ventilation	1	—
Condensation	1	—
Leaking Ports	1	—
Defective Food Storage	2	—
Defective Food Lockers	2	—
Defective Clothes Lockers	2	—
Leaking Decks	2	—
Cleansing of Water Tanks Required	1	—
Defective Floor Drainage	3	—
Dirty Wash Places	2	—
Wash Basins Required	1	—
Dirty Mess Rooms	4	—
Water Closets Foul or Choked	7	2
Water Closets Defective	6	—
Water Closets No Water Supply	3	—
Quarters Require Repainting	1	—
Dirty Quarters.. .. .	9	2
Verminous Quarters	10	—
Miscellaneous	2	—
Number of Vessels Reported as Defective	46	
Number of Vessels on which defects were remedied	45	

APPENDIX 2
SUMMARY OF FOODSTUFFS IMPORTED
DURING THE YEARS 1747 and 1948

1947		1948	
Fruit ..	1911568 Pkgs.	Fruit ..	3173015 Pkgs.
Offals ..	18625 Casks	Offals.. ..	14377 Casks
Sausages ..	3997 Cases	Sausages ..	520 Cases
Fish	439484 Cases	Fish	451741 Cases
Preserves ..	6396 Cases	Preserves ..	31356 Cases
Eggs	293521 Cases	Eggs	191163 Cases
Provisions..	973 Cases	Provisions..	1073 Cases
Condensed Milk	1729 Cases	Condensed Milk	7260 Cases
Biscuits ..	72830 Tins	Biscuits ..	69702 Tins
Chocolate ..	14028 Cases	Chocolate ..	1334 Cases
Fruit Juice ..	—	Fruit Juice ..	182 Casks
Hares, Rabbits	2400 Cases	Hares	4095 Cases
Gelatine ..	172 Sacks	Gelatine ..	117 Sacks
Wheat	—	Wheat	58 Sacks
Black Pudding	451 Cases	Black Pudding	10 Cases
Vegetables ..	1147323 Pkgs.	Vegetables ..	1942273 Pkgs.
Poultry	179340 Cases	Poultry	148184 Cases
Bakery Fat ..	—	Bakery Fat ..	10683 Cartons
Bacon	249956 Sides	Bacon	98788 Sides
Butter	28298 Casks	Butter	31031 Casks
Cheese	29822 Boxes	Cheese	19128 Cases
Edible Oil ..	—	Edible Oil ..	5331 Casks
Synthetic Cream	—	Synthetic Cream	1728 Churns
Custard Powder	—	Custard Powder	9054 Cases
Yeast.. ..	12117 Baskets	Yeast.. ..	1000 Baskets
Salad Oil ..	—	Salad Oil ..	712 Casks
Beaver Meat ..	165 Cases	Beaver Meat ..	275 Cases
Milk Powder ..	574 Cases	Milk Powder ..	32 Cases
Barley	402 Bags	Barley	50 Sacks
Beef	8358 Qtrs.	Beef	—
Tomato Puree ..	4236 Cases	Tomato Puree ..	—
Conserves ..	50 Cases	Conserves ..	—
Marzipan ..	1853 Cases	Marzipan ..	—
Caviare	228 Cases	Caviare	—

APPENDIX 3

SEIZURES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH
(IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937

				<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qtrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Offals :						
Cooked Spleens	..	2	Casks	95	0	3
Pig Melts	..	1	Cask			
Hog Caps	..	1	Cask			
Cooked Udders	..	27	Casks			
Ox Tripes	..	19	Casks			
Bacon Rinds	..	11	Casks			
Preserves :						
Tinned Crab	..	33	Cases	21	1	5
Pork Brawn	..	689	Tins			
Tomato Puree	..	10	Tins			
Condensed Milk	..	7	Tins			
Tinned Peas	..	2	Tins			
Strawberry Juice	..	1	Tin			
Fruit :						
Plums	..	36	Boxes	5	0	1
Melons	..	148	Melons	2	3	11
Pears	..	41	Boxes	11	2	2
Grapes	..	29	Boxes	3	1	18
Peaches	..	4	Boxes		3	26
Mandarins	..	1	Box			7
Vegetables :						
Carrots	..	10	Baskets	5	0	0
Lettuces	..	59	Crates	7	10	26
Cucumbers	..	20	Boxes	3	0	13
Tomatoes	..	9	Trays	1	3	10
Paprica	..	6	Trays		2	4
Mushrooms	..	3	Chips			9
Fish	..	60	Cases	39	0	0
Game	..	28	Pheasants		2	0
Eggs	..	6640	Eggs	7	0	15
Sausages	..	2	Cases			27

SHIPS STORES CERTIFIED AS UNFIT
FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

					<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qtrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Turnips	..	..	..	..			24
Bacon	..	..	..	..			16
Potatoes	..	..	..	..	2	0	0
Sultanas	..	..	..	..			5
Rabbits	..	..	..	..			14
Ox Tails	..	..	..	..			9
Mutton	..	..	..	..			5
Beef	..	..	..	..	1	0	10

